

24 February 1970

Dear E

I am attaching 3 clippings of the "Münchener Merkur" with reports about SPD meetings in Frankfurt and Munich. It may be interesting for you to have these clippings because they show the state of mind of a big part of the younger generation in the SPD. Surely there is no doubt that the elder people of the party may be conscious of our constitution which is a democratic and parliamentary one. The more it is remarkable that nowadays it is possible to discuss ideas with acclamation which are in fact communist ideas. I suppose, that Tom will have reported to you the several discussions I had with him about my fears with regard to the coming development. I am afraid we are already on the way to a communism of Yugoslavian brand. Of course this development will proceed step by step and not tomorrow, but if nothing will be done against it nor prepared for the case that this development will reach a decisive phase, then Europe may be lost to the West after a period of years. You remember our discussions about similar possible developments in France and Italy. Of course these developments go in the same direction but in a different way. Since the internal situations in France, Italy and Germany will influence each other, it may be that under certain circumstances in some years we may have suddenly an unexpected turn-over to "socialism" (really communism) in Western Europe. By the way I am startled about the fact that so many young people of good families are attracted by the new socialist ideas which are related to communist ideas (APO, SDS and so on). I hope you understand my letter and its sense, I would not like to alarm you, but I suppose the development has to be closely observed.

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When will you be in Germany on your next trip? I would appreciate if you would have time for a discussion on the above mentioned subject.

With many regards from my wife and my children to you and your family,

cordially yours,

DR. KTOR SCHNEIDER